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DEIS Public Hearing, 7-14-04

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STATEMENT OF FRED BERESWILL

I'm Fred Bereswill, 4353 325th Avenue Northeast,
Carnation.

H2-1

A quick question, not having seen the EIS but one of
the locations for the treatment plant, I think, is in one of
the FEMA flood designations. And this past year or two,
we've gone through the redesignation of all the FEMA flood
designations in the city. And hopefully, that's going to be
looked at as one of the places, either building in a
particular spot or protecting it from floods.

H2-2

H2-3

And then I should think we should look at the floods
in the Snoqualmie Valley in the discharge areas. What is
that going to do? I grant that the Upland Discharge
probably won't be affected by that, but the two in the
valley may be. I should think, not having seen the EIS,
hopefully that's going to be addressed and looked at.

That's all I have. Thank you.

VAN PELT, CORBETT & ASSOCIATES
423 2nd Ave. Ext. S, #21 * Seattle, WA 98104 * 206-682-9339

Public Hearing Testimony

(Organized in alpha order by last name)

Bereswill (H2)

Response to Comment H2-1

Portions of both proposed treatment plant sites are within the FEMA 100 year floodplain. Please see Chapter 6, Section 6.1.3 of the Final EIS for more detail on portions of the site in the floodplain. To determine accurately how much of each site is in the floodplain would require a site survey. This will take place during the treatment plant design process.

Response to Comment H2-2

The most recent FEMA floodplain data and designations have been used to prepare the EIS.

Response to Comment H2-3

Discharge from the proposed treatment plant would be about 0.4 mgd (0.6 cfs). This input is small compared to Snoqualmie River flows and no measurable impact on river levels is anticipated. Please see Chapter 6, Section 6.2.3.1 of the Final EIS for more details.

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STATEMENT OF JANE HARTWELL

H4-1 | I prefer the wetlands solution. Jane Hartwell,
H-A-R-T-W-E-L-L. 1805 280th Avenue Northeast, Carnation,
98014.

H4-2 | And if the treatment plant is going to be here, by the
cement, would it have buffer and greenery around it? So
probably I'd prefer the treatment plant, the other one
that's in the back over by the residential.

That's all. Thank you.

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Hartwell (H4)

Response to Comment H4-1

Thank you for your comment.

Response to Comment H4-2

As stated in the Draft EIS, no matter which treatment plant site is selected the buildings and grounds would be designed and landscaped to be compatible with the existing neighborhood.

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STATEMENT OF PAUL WITTROCK

I am Paul Wittrock, 10810 298th Avenue Northeast in
Carnation, 98014.

Thank you, King County, for coming out. And my
concerns are regarding the treatment plant processing of the
wastewater, the effluent. It sounds like you're doing a
good job of taking out the biological components.

But the analysis that King County performed comparing
the wastewater effluent to drinking water -- which is often
the comparison that is made, holding up clear glasses of
water, of effluent, and comparing them to drinking water --
your analysis showed that there is extremely high levels of
chemicals in solution in this wastewater. Household wastes,
cleaners, industrial things that are used in commercial
processes in the cities that have sewers aren't taken out by
your process. At least you didn't explain that they were.

So I'd like to ask, if you could tonight, to touch on
that and show and tell us if they are removed because it
sounds like you're either, A, going to put these in the
river, in Stillwater Wildlife Area where they would
bio-accumulate. The animals, creatures there would be
exposed to these ongoing accumulations of chemicals.

And the only thing that sounds like they could be

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Wittrock (H1)

Response to Comment H1-1

The EIS shows drinking water standards in Table A-11 in Appendix A. That table compares water quality standards established by the State of Washington for the chemicals listed. The table is not a list of chemicals expected to be present in the highly treated water discharged from the Carnation Wastewater Treatment Facility. Rather, the table shows acceptable levels of the listed chemicals in surface, ground and drinking waters in the State of Washington, whatever the source of those chemicals might be.

In Chapter 6, Section 6.2, the Draft EIS discusses the potential impacts and mitigation measures of discharging the highly treated water to the environment. In particular, the discussion of chemical contaminants beginning on page 6-23 points out that organic chemicals (e.g., those found in household cleaners) typically enter the waste stream in small quantities and that most would be removed by the treatment process.

In Chapter 1, Section 1.9.2, the EIS explains why King County's design of and policies for the Carnation Wastewater Treatment Facility would ensure that the highly treated water discharged from the facility would meet or be better than regulatory standards. These include the high pollutant removal achieved by the MBR process, regulatory restrictions on the types and amounts of potentially harmful materials that Carnation businesses would be allowed to discharge to the sewer system, and the County's policy of complying with all applicable permit standards now and in the future.

Response to Comment H1-2

As described in the response to the previous comment, the Carnation Wastewater Treatment Facility would achieve a high level of pollutant removal. This level of removal would produce water that meets or is of higher quality than State water quality standards. These standards are designed to protect aquatic life from bioaccumulation of listed contaminants. King County continuously monitors the scientific literature for chemicals that are of concern that don't have water quality standards. King County also takes water samples from various parts of its service area and analyzes these samples for many of these chemicals. King County would monitor the highly treated water discharged from the treatment plant to meet regulatory requirements. For these reasons and for the other reasons given in Chapter 7, Section 7.2.2.2, the impacts of discharging highly treated water to the wetlands are expected to be insignificant.

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1 handled in some form or another would be the Upland
2 Discharge where the accumulations of chemicals could be
3 scraped out occasionally and disposed of in some other way.
4 Then, there's other issues with putting the wastewater up
5 there that the neighbors up there have concerns about.

6 It sounds like the best way -- right now, we have no
7 effluent going into the river at all, near as I can tell.
8 The best solution is to not pollute the environment with
9 this effluent. And so that's my comment.

H1-3

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Response to Comment H1-3

As indicated in Chapter 6, Section 6.1.2.1, agricultural, residential and silvicultural areas have been documented as nonpoint sources of pollutants throughout the lower Snoqualmie River system. And as indicated in Chapter 6, Section 6.2.5, if the treatment facility were not built, the risk to surface and groundwater quality would continue at present or increased levels as aging septic systems continued to fail. Finally, as stated in Chapter 6, Section 6.2.3.1, the combination of low pollutant levels in the highly treated water discharged from the plant and rapid dilution in the river are expected to result in no significant adverse impacts to the river's water quality.

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STATEMENT OF PAUL WITTROCK (Continued)

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4 The alternative of exploring onsite sewage disposal
5 for the commercial development in Carnation has not been
6 adequately explored, similar to the grocery store-shopping
7 center where there's onsite community drain field which
8 doesn't pollute the river, the uplands, or the wetlands with
9 H3-1 the chemicals and heavy metals that are effluent from the --
10 what do you call it? -- the membrane bioreactor process.

11 So this should be also explored in the Environmental
12 Impact Statements. And this onsite sewage disposal should
13 also be explored from a cost standpoint for the citizens of
14 Carnation.

15 I think that's all.
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Wittrock (H3)

Response to Comment H3-1

The City of Carnation considered on-site wastewater treatment and disposal alternatives, as noted in Chapter 3, Section 3.4.1. Please see the City plans referred to in that section for more detail on the issues associated with these alternatives.

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